

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A multimedia signal coding device comprising:
 - an audio signal coding unit that codes an input audio signal;
 - an audio data memory that temporarily stores a coded output of said audio signal coding unit;
 - an image signal coding unit that codes an input image signal while controlling an amount of output image data according to an external control signal;
 - coded image data memory that temporarily stores a coded output of said image signal coding unit;
 - a control data processor that ~~processes predetermined data for input~~ processes control data, generating a processed control signal;
 - control data memory that stores an output of said control data processor;
 - a multiplexer that multiplexes the data stored in said audio data memory, said image data memory and said control data memory, wherein processed control data is input into the multiplexer as a separate signal from coded audio data and coded image data; and
 - an output code amount controller that generates a control signal for controlling an amount of output data of said image signal coding unit in response to an increase or decrease in an amount of any of the multiplexer inputs, coded audio data, coded image data, or processed

control data, on the basis of the output of said multiplexer through notification of said image signal coding unit with said generated control signal.

2. (Previously Presented) A multimedia signal coding device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said output code amount controller calculates a total amount of data stored in said audio data memory, said image data memory and said control data memory to obtain a total amount of output data of said image signal coding unit.

3. (Previously Presented) A multimedia signal coding device as claimed in claim 2, wherein said calculation includes a determination that obtains a data transmission time by dividing the total amount of output data by a predetermined amount of data transmission per unit time of said multimedia coding device, and said output code amount controller determines the amount of output data of said image signal coding unit through comparison of the transmission time with a requested transmission time.

4. (Previously Presented) A multimedia signal coding device as claimed in claim 3, wherein said determination comprises decreasing the amount of coded image signal data when the transmission time is longer than the requested transmission time and increasing the amount of coded image signal data when the transmission time is shorter than the requested transmission time.

5. (Previously Presented) A multimedia signal coding device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a multiplexed data memory that temporarily stores the output of said multiplexer, wherein said output code amount controller obtains the amount of the output data of said image signal coding unit on the basis of the amount of data stored in said multiplexed data memory.

6. (Previously Presented) A multimedia signal coding device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the output code amount controller obtains a data transmission time by division of the amount of data stored in said multiplexed data memory by a predetermined data transmission amount of said multimedia coding signal device and determines the amount of output data of said image signal coding unit by comparison of the obtained data transmission time with a requested transmission time.

7. (Previously Presented) A multimedia signal coding device as claimed in claim 6, wherein obtaining the data transmission time comprises an adjustment unit for decreasing the amount of coded image data when the transmission time is longer than the requested transmission time and increasing the amount of coded image data when the transmission time is shorter than the requested transmission time.

8. (Currently Amended) An output code amount control method for a multimedia signal coding device, the method comprising:

coding an audio signal;

coding an image signal;
coding a control signal;
multiplexing the coded audio, coded image, and coded control signals to create multiplexed data, wherein the multiplexer has three inputs, and a coded audio signal, a coded image signal, and a coded control data signal are each applied to one of the three multiplexer inputs; and

inputting the multiplexed data to an output amount control circuit for controlling an amount of image data output by an image signal coding circuit, based on an amount of at least one of said coded audio, said coded control, and said coded image signal(s) before or after said multiplexing.

9. (Previously Presented) An output code amount control method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising:

obtaining a total amount of data of audio data obtained by coding the audio signal, image data obtained by coding the image signal and control data obtained by coding the control signal;
and

obtaining a transmission time by dividing the obtained total amount of data with a pre-determined data amount per unit time of the multimedia coding device; and

controlling an amount of image data on the basis of a comparison of the transmission time with a requested transmission time.

10. (Previously Presented) An output code amount control method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the function of controlling the amount of coded image data comprises decreasing the amount of coded image data when the transmission time is longer than the requested transmission time and increasing the amount of coded image data when the transmission time is shorter than the requested transmission time.

11. (Previously Presented) A computer readable recording medium with computer executable code recorded thereon for causing a computer to execute the method of claim 8.

12. (Previously Presented) A computer readable recording medium with computer executable code recorded thereon for causing a computer to execute the method of claim 9.

13. (Previously Presented) A computer readable recording medium with computer executable code recorded thereon for causing a computer to execute the method of claim 10.

14. (New) A multimedia signal coding device comprising:
an audio signal coding unit that codes an input audio signal;
an audio data memory that temporarily stores a coded output of said audio signal coding unit;
an image signal coding unit that codes an input image signal while controlling an amount of output data according to an external control signal;

coded image data memory that temporarily stores a coded output of said image signal coding unit;

a control data processor that processes control data;

control data memory that stores an output of said control data processor;

a multiplexer that multiplexes the data stored in said audio data memory, said image data memory and said control data memory; and

an output code amount controller that generates a control signal for controlling an amount of output data of said image signal coding unit in response to an increase or decrease in an amount of any of the multiplexer inputs, coded audio data, coded image data, or processed control data, on the basis of the output of said multiplexer through notification of said image signal coding unit with said generated control signal;

wherein said output code amount controller calculates a total amount of data stored in said audio data memory, said image data memory and said control data memory to obtain a total amount of output data of said image signal coding unit;

wherein said calculation includes a determination that obtains a data transmission time by dividing the total amount of output data by a predetermined amount of data transmission per unit time of said multimedia coding device, and said output code amount controller determines the amount of output data of said image signal coding unit through comparison of the transmission time with a requested transmission time; and .

wherein said determination comprises decreasing the amount of coded image signal data when the transmission time is longer than the requested transmission time and increasing the

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amount of coded image signal data when the transmission time is shorter than the requested
transmission time.